

## Narrative Writing Rubric for Grades 3-8 (page 1)

Score	4	3	2	1
Organization / Purpose	<p>The organization of the narrative, real or imagined, is fully sustained and the focus is clear and maintained throughout:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>an effective plot helps to create a sense of unity and completeness</li> <li>effectively establishes a setting, narrator/characters, and/or point of view*</li> <li>consistent use of a variety of transitional strategies to clarify the relationships between and among ideas; strong connection between and among ideas</li> <li>natural, logical sequence of events from beginning to end</li> <li>effective opening and closure for audience and purpose</li> </ul>	<p>The organization of the narrative, real or imagined, is adequately sustained, and the focus is adequate and generally maintained:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>an evident plot helps to create a sense of unity and completeness, though there may be minor flaws and some ideas may be loosely connected</li> <li>adequately establishes a setting, narrator/characters, and/or point of view*</li> <li>adequate use of a variety of transitional strategies to clarify the relationships between and among ideas</li> <li>adequate sequence of events from beginning to end</li> <li>adequate opening and closure for audience and purpose</li> </ul>	<p>The organization of the narrative, real or imagined, is somewhat sustained and may have an uneven focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>there may be an inconsistent plot, and/or flaws may be evident</li> <li>unevenly or minimally establishes a setting, narrator/characters, and/or point of view*</li> <li>uneven use of appropriate transitional strategies and/or little variety</li> <li>weak or uneven sequence of events</li> <li>opening and closure, if present, are weak</li> </ul>	<p>The organization of the narrative, real or imagined, may be maintained but may provide little or no focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>there is little or no discernible plot or there may just be a series of events</li> <li>may be brief or there is little to no attempt to establish a setting, narrator/characters, and/or point of view*</li> <li>few or no appropriate transitional strategies may be evident and may cause confusion</li> <li>little or no organization of an event sequence; frequent extraneous ideas and/or a major drift may be evident</li> <li>opening and/or closure may be missing or unsatisfactory</li> </ul>
Evidence / Elaboration	<p>The narrative, real or imagined, provides thorough, effective elaboration using relevant details, dialogue, and/or description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>experiences, characters, setting and/or events are clearly developed</li> <li>connections to source materials may enhance the narrative</li> <li>effective use of a variety of narrative techniques that advance the story or illustrate the experience</li> <li>effective use of sensory, concrete, and figurative language that clearly advances the purpose</li> <li>effective, appropriate style enhances the narration</li> </ul>	<p>The narrative, real or imagined, provides adequate elaboration using details, dialogue, and/or description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>experiences, characters, setting, and/or events are adequately developed</li> <li>connections to source materials may contribute to the narrative</li> <li>adequate use of a variety of narrative techniques that generally advance the story or illustrate the experience</li> <li>adequate use of sensory, concrete, and figurative language that generally advances the purpose</li> <li>generally appropriate style is evident</li> </ul>	<p>The narrative, real or imagined, provides uneven, cursory elaboration using partial and uneven details, dialogue, and/or description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>experiences, characters, setting, and/or events are unevenly developed</li> <li>connections to source materials may be ineffective, awkward, or vague but do not interfere with the narrative</li> <li>narrative techniques are uneven and inconsistent</li> <li>partial or weak use of sensory, concrete, and figurative language that may not advance the purpose</li> <li>inconsistent or weak attempt to create appropriate style</li> </ul>	<p>The narrative, real or imagined, provides minimal elaboration using few or no details, dialogue, and/or description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>experiences, characters, setting, and/or events may be vague, lack clarity, or confusing</li> <li>connections to source materials, if evident, may detract from the narrative</li> <li>use of narrative techniques may be minimal, absent, incorrect, or irrelevant</li> <li>may have little or no use of sensory, concrete, or figurative language; language does not advance and may interfere with the purpose</li> <li>little or no evidence of appropriate style</li> </ul>

\* Point of view begins at grade 7.

## Narrative Writing Rubric for Grades 3-8 (page 2)

Score	2	1	0
Conventions	<p>The response demonstrates an adequate command of conventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>adequate use of correct sentence formation, punctuation, capitalization, grammar usage, and spelling</li></ul>	<p>The response demonstrates a partial command of conventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>limited use of correct sentence formation, punctuation, capitalization, grammar usage, and spelling</li></ul>	<p>The response demonstrates little or no command of conventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>infrequent use of correct sentence formation, punctuation, capitalization, grammar usage, and spelling</li></ul>

**Variety:** A range of errors includes formation, punctuation, capitalization, grammar usage, and spelling.

**Severity:** Basic errors are more heavily weighted than higher-level errors.

**Density:** The proportion of errors to the amount of writing done well. This includes the ratio of errors to the length of the piece.

This rubric was released by the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium to help teachers, administrators, and policymakers better understand the Common Core Standards and prepare for the implementation of the Smarter Balanced assessments. The Nevada Department of Education has reformatted it to fit on one page (front-to-back).